

What is Dyslexia?

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Who am I?



My Biggest Job



What is Dyslexia?

Dyslexia is a specific language-based disorder...characterized by difficulties in single word decoding, usually reflecting insufficient phonological processing abilities. These difficulties in single word decoding are often **unexpected** in relation to age and other cognitive and academic abilities; they are not the result of...developmental disabilities or sensory impairment.

Disclaimer

Self-Diagnosis is very common when hearing the symptoms of any problem. Most people will see something in this list that hits a bit too close to home. This doesn't mean you have dyslexia.

A person with dyslexia usually has several of these characteristics that persist over time and interfere with his or her learning.

Common Characteristics of Dyslexia

Oral Language

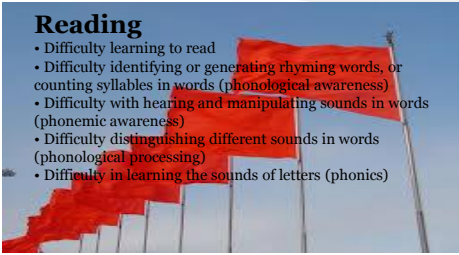
- Late learning to talk
- Difficulty pronouncing words
- Difficulty acquiring vocabulary or using age appropriate grammar
- Difficulty following directions
- Confusion with before/after, right/left, and so on
- Difficulty learning the alphabet, nursery rhymes, or songs
- Difficulty understanding concepts and relationships
- Difficulty with word retrieval or naming problems



Common Characteristics of Dyslexia

Reading

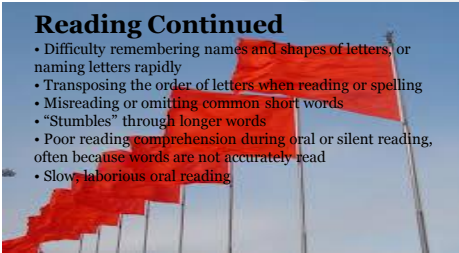
- Difficulty learning to read
- Difficulty identifying or generating rhyming words, or counting syllables in words (phonological awareness)
- Difficulty with hearing and manipulating sounds in words (phonemic awareness)
- Difficulty distinguishing different sounds in words (phonological processing)
- Difficulty in learning the sounds of letters (phonics)



Common Characteristics of Dyslexia

Reading Continued

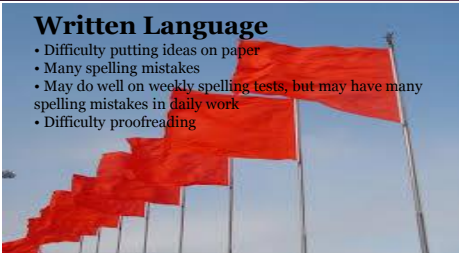
- Difficulty remembering names and shapes of letters, or naming letters rapidly
- Transposing the order of letters when reading or spelling
- Misreading or omitting common short words
- "Stumbles" through longer words
- Poor reading comprehension during oral or silent reading, often because words are not accurately read
- Slow, laborious oral reading



Common Characteristics of Dyslexia

Written Language

- Difficulty putting ideas on paper
- Many spelling mistakes
- May do well on weekly spelling tests, but may have many spelling mistakes in daily work
- Difficulty proofreading



Common Characteristics of Dyslexia

Other common symptoms

- Difficulty naming colors, objects, and letters rapidly, in a sequence (RAN: rapid automatized naming)
- Weak memory for lists, directions, or facts
- Needs to see or hear concepts many times to learn them
- Distracted by visual or auditory stimuli



Common Characteristics of Dyslexia

Other common symptoms

- Downward trend in achievement test scores or school performance
- Inconsistent school work
- Teacher says, "If only she would try harder," or "He's lazy."
- Relatives may have similar problems



Who is Dyslexia?

One in ten...



Ella
is
one
in
ten.



but all ten deserve an appropriate education!

Who Do You Know?

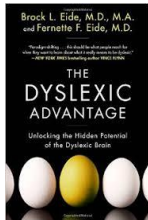
Let's take 5-7 minutes and think about the characteristics that we just looked at and kids that we have had in the past? What names can you put on these characteristics?

Have we called any of them lazy?

Have we "labeled" any of them as ADHD?

Have we gotten so frustrated with them because they weren't working to their potential?

I  this book!



The Dyslexic Advantage
by: Brock L. Eide M.D., M.A.
& Fennette F. Eide, M.D.

Publisher: A Plume Book

ISBN: 978-0-452-29792-0

If it is dyslexia...here's some ideas!

We must "rewire" the brain.

Memorization vs. Remembering

Assess What?

word banks - ABCs

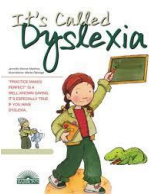
Oral but Misordered

Grading

What Are You Assessing?

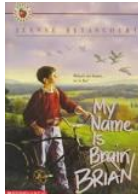
Don't let the assessment be assessments of if they still have Dyslexia, structure your assessments to find out what your students know!

Student Resources



K - 2nd

2nd - 4th



4th & up

Final Thoughts

The great thing is there isn't a cure because it's not a disease.
It's not something that you overcome because it brings with you so many strengths.
The work of learning academics doesn't fall to the child but instead it falls to the teacher to present and assess the academics in a way that the child can learn.
